

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A joint prosthesis system for joining a first bone having a first surface to a second bone having a second surface ~~in a patient~~, comprising:

at least one bioabsorbable spacer adapted to be interposed between the first surface and the second surface; and

at least one connector adapted to be fixedly attached to the first bone and the second bone, at least a portion of the at least one connector restricting the lateral movement of said at least one bioabsorbable spacer ~~the at least one connector connected to the at least one bioabsorbable spacer~~ by contacting the outer surface of the at least one bioabsorbable spacer, ~~and disposed to prevent lateral movement of the at least one bioabsorbable spacer~~ the at least one connector comprising autogenous soft or fibrous tissue ~~constructed of the patient's own tissue~~.

2. (Previously Presented) The joint prosthesis system as set forth in claim 1, wherein said at least one bioabsorbable spacer is cylindrical.

3. (Previously Presented) The joint prosthesis system as set forth in claim 1, wherein said at least one bioabsorbable spacer has a porosity of about 50 μm to 1000 μm .

4. (Previously Presented) The joint prosthesis system as set forth in claim 3, wherein said at least one bioabsorbable spacer comprises a bioabsorbable fabric wrapped to form a cylindrical body.

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